



PRESS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Contact: Powell Caesar
(440) 885-8181 or (216) 272-7338 (cell)

City of Parma to establish “citizens’ police review board” and police chaplaincy program

(Parma, OH) - Parma city council has passed legislation authorizing Mayor Dean DePiero to create a “citizens’ police review board” and to establish a volunteer chaplaincy program for the Parma Police Department.

Both the citizens’ review board and the police chaplaincy program were recommended by an independent Blue Ribbon Commission that was created last year to assess city operations and finances.

Just last month, the city created a “citizens’ police academy” to provide Parma residents with an “up close” look at the field of law enforcement.

The responsibility of the citizen’s review board is to hear any complaints lodged against police officers by citizens and also to determine if proper police procedures are adhered to during high profile cases.

“I am pleased that council has authorized the formation of the Police Civilian Review Board,” said Mayor DePiero. “This serves as yet another example of transparency in government.”

The police chaplaincy program is designed to provide Parma police officers with a “support system” and counseling, when and where needed. The program is voluntary and will be staffed by Parma area ministers.

##